

PREFACE

When I came to the Archives in September of 1960, the publication of the journals of the Ninth and Tenth Legislatures had already been approved by the Texas Library and Historical Commission. The first volume, the *Senate Journal of the Ninth Legislature, Regular Session*, appeared in March, 1963. Now, three years later, the last of the eight volumes is printed and with it the entire proceedings of the Texas Legislature are available.

While the editing and printing of the eight books revolved around the writer of this preface, he in no way claims to be completely responsible for their production. All members of the Texas Library and Historical Commission have been encouraging, but Walter E. Long of Austin and C. Stanley Banks, Sr., of San Antonio have been particularly helpful. On the administrative level the Director and Librarian, Dorman H. Winfrey, and the Assistant State Librarian, William K. Peace, have helped to provide the funds from an unusually tight budget. William Carlton and Mrs. Virginia Pollard have answered innumerable budgetary questions, while Paul Loftin, a former State Library employee, and Mary Kay Dunlap have assisted in providing the photographs. On the Archives staff no fewer than six persons have actively assisted in the preparation of the journals. The reliance on Mary Osburn, Donna Yarbrough, and Elizabeth Whitlow is apparent. To those who have written introductions—Mary Laswell, Cooper K. Ragan, Price Daniel, Dorsey Hardeman, Ben Barnes, John Ben Shepperd, Neveille Colson, Walter E. Long, and Barnes Lathrop—goes another word of appreciation.

The journals are printed as a public service and, while they have not to date been big sellers, they have received favorable reviews in the *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*, the *West Texas Historical Association Yearbook*, *Texana*, and *Texas Military History*. The Texas State Historical Survey Committee saw fit in 1965 to honor four of the books with Awards of Merit. While this immediate recognition is pleasant, it is not the primary purpose of the Archives publication program. The effort is to present primary materials which students of Texas' past can mold into readable, accurate, historical accounts.

The editing of this book has followed the pattern of

previous volumes as closely as possible, but once again, as in some of the previously published journals, portions of the manuscripts have been lost. All of the House journal is missing and a five-year search of the Archives failed to locate it. The Senate journal of the last day of the session, November 15, 1864, is also missing.

Just when the loss of these journals occurred is difficult to determine. One can presume the documents were present in 1914 when the Texas Library and Historical Commission voted to publish these journals. At that time no mention was made that any of the journals were missing. They were not present in 1943 when the National Association of State Libraries published the *Supplement Check List of Legislative Journals*, but the exact date of their disappearance cannot be ascertained.

When the manuscript journals are lacking, an effort had to be made to piece together the fragments which could be located. Contemporary newspapers provided information, particularly the *Dallas Herald* and the *Texas State Gazette* of Austin.

The bulk of the information about the bills was taken from the originals in the Archives. These bills were filed by the bill number assigned by the clerk, and most of the bills contain the information as to when they were introduced and passed through their various readings. This information was extracted from each bill and inserted in the journal on the day of the action. Neither committee reports nor "Original Bills" could be found for the House so none are included.

The regular order of business not being known with certainty, the decision was made to present Bills first to be followed by Messages, Committee Reports, and Commentaries. Perhaps the biggest hiatus in this journal is the lack of a voting record for each member. That simply could not be determined and included.

This preface could not be closed without expressing thanks to Marilyn Von Kohl, Newton Mitchell, Floree Haine, Linda Evans, Clifton Roberts, and Andrew Smith for their assistance, and to the staff of Texian Press who holds the State Library printing contract.

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